

water to form a mixture wherein the mixture has less than 5% water;

compacting the mixture into a green briquette; and

heating the green briquette at a temperature of from about 1000°C to about 1550°C for a period of 6 to 20 minutes, therein metallizing the iron forming the metallized briquette.

2. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein said green briquette is heated for a period of 7 to 9 minutes.

3. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein said green briquette is heated at a temperature in the range of from 1000°C to 1300°C.

4. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein said iron bearing material are selected from the group consisting of iron ore, blast furnace dust, blast furnace sludge, basic oxygen furnace dust, EAF dust, basic oxygen furnace sludge, mill scale, pellet fines, metallized DRI fines, turnings, mill sludge, sinter dust, cupola dust, and mixtures thereof.

5. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein said cellulose fiber is selected from the group consisting of shredded organic wastes, paper, newsprint, cardboard, wood scrap, bagasse (sugar cane waste), sewage sludge, municipal waste, refuse-derived fuels, and mixtures thereof.

6. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein said reductant is selected from the group consisting of cellulose fiber, CDQ dust, pulverized coal, coke breeze, petroleum coke

finer, charcoal, graphite, blast furnace dust, blast furnace sludge, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein the agglomerate is initially heated in an oxidizing atmosphere, followed by further heating in an inert or reducing atmosphere.

8. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, further comprising adding steel alloy materials to the agglomerate; and introducing said green briquette into a steelmaking furnace.

9. (Amended) The process according to claim 8, wherein said green briquette is composed of sufficient reductant to reduce the iron oxide to iron forming the metallized briquette.

10. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein from 0.5 to 15 percent of the iron bearing feed material has a particle size of up to 6 mm in size.

11. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein said green briquette is fed directly to the heating furnace without any drying step.

12. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein said cellulose fiber comprises 0.5 to 2.0% by weight of the green briquette.

13. (Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein said metallized briquette forms at least 40% metallized iron.

14. (Amended) A process for making metallized briquettes comprising:
- dry combining iron bearing materials, a reductant, and a cellulose fiber with water therein forming a mixture, wherein the total content of water is less than 5% by weight, and the total content of reductant is sufficient to reduce iron oxide to iron;
- compacting the mixture into green briquettes using conventional briquetting equipment which generates high pressures;
- heating the green briquette in a DRI furnace therein forming the metallized briquettes.
15. (Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said iron bearing materials are selected from the group consisting of iron ore, blast furnace dust, blast furnace sludge, basic oxygen furnace dust, EAF dust, basic oxygen furnace sludge, mill scale, pellet fines, metallized DRI fines, turnings, mill sludge, sinter dust, cupola dust, and mixtures thereof.
16. (Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein said cellulose fiber is selected from the group consisting of shredded organic wastes, paper, newsprint, cardboard, wood scrap, bagasse (sugar cane waste), sewage sludge, municipal waste, refuse-derived fuels, and mixtures thereof.
17. (Amended) The process according to claim 14, further comprising introducing said green briquettes into a steelmaking furnace as iron-bearing feed material.
18. (Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein from 0.5 to 15 percent of the iron bearing material consists of particles that are up to 6 mm in size.